Appl. No. 09/635,823 Amdt. Dated January 14, 2004 Reply to Office Action of December 23, 2003

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

In accordance with one embodiment of the present invention, a system and method is provided for monitoring the configuration and/or status of target devices on a network. The system comprises a monitoring application that can be run on a first network device. The monitoring application is configured to monitor one or more target devices on the network using data collector modules run on the target devices. The data collector modules are launched on the target devices by the monitoring application and are configured to collect configuration and/or status information about the target devices. After collecting the data, the data collector modules preferably pass the data back to the first network device, where a data upload application receives the data and uploads it to a central site. The data at the central site is placed in a database for access by users or clients. Users can access the data in the database by communicating with the central site, for example, via a dial-up connection or via the Internet. Once connected to the central site, a user can retrieve system information using a graphical user interface, or can submit report requests to the central site. The interface used to access information at the central site may be a web browser communicating through a web server at the central site.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

Ъ О In accordance with another embodiment of the present invention, the upload application may be configured to parse the data obtained by the data collector modules into packets, and then transmit the packets to the central site. In accordance with <u>this</u> aspect of the invention, the central site comprises an application that receives the data packets and reformats them into a full data file. The full data file then is converted into the database.